
James S Kendall

1876 – 1944

Attorney at Law – Munday, TX

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***Francis White Johnson, Ernest
William Winkler***



J. S. Kendall

The leading lawyer in Munday, Texas, and one of the most successful attorneys in Knox county, is James S. Kendall. He has only been located in Munday for a short time but he has a good practice and has made a wide circle of friends. Mr. Kendall, although not a native of Texas, has been bred in the state and is an enthusiastic champion of this section of the Union. He is a lawyer of wide experience, and is well known for his careful preparation and the conscientious work which he gives to his cases outside of the court room as well as for the able manner in which he handles cases before the bar.

James S. Kendall was born in Independence county, Arkansas, on the 21st of August, 1876. He lived in Arkansas until he was ten years of age when his parents moved to Texas. His father, Samuel G. Kendall, was born in the state of Arkansas and came to Texas in 1887. He followed farming both before and after coming to Texas and was also interested in real estate investments. When the Civil war broke out Mr. Kendall enlisted in the Confederate army, as a member of the Tenth Arkansas Infantry. He saw much active service and among the important engagements in which he participated was the Battle of Shiloh. Mr. Kendall was very active politically, being a member of the Democratic party. In religious matters he

was a member of the Baptist church. He died in 1898 at the age of sixty-seven. He married Miss Sarah H. Wyatt, after moving to Arkansas. She was born in Tennessee and like her husband was a devout member of the Baptist church. She died in 1907 at the age of sixty-six, and is buried by the side of her husband in Decatur, Texas.

Of the eight children born to Samuel and Sarah Kendall, James S. Kendall was the fifth. He went to school in Arkansas first and later attended the public schools of Texas. He completed the high school course at Decatur and then left school to accept a position in a dry goods store. He was seventeen years of age at this time and his salary at the start was forty-five dollars a month, a good beginning for a young boy. After about eighteen months of this work he went into an abstract office where he worked until 1897. It was during this period of his life that he took up the study of law and in 1897 he was admitted to the bar.

He immediately began the practice of law in Decatur, continuing his abstract business at the same time. In 1901 he left his home town and went to Robert Lee, Texas, where he was engaged in the practice of law for three years. His next move took him to Tahoka where he only practiced his profession for a year before going to Vernon, Texas. After a year in this place he came to Knox county and located in Benjamin, the county seat. For six years he was here engaged in the practice of law and in the real estate business. Then in November, 1912, he came to Munday and established himself in practice here. He has been elected city attorney of Munday and has a growing practice.

In politics Mr. Kendall is a member of the Democratic party and takes a very active interest in both local and national politics. He is a member of the Methodist church and in the fraternal world is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Eed Men. He is also an active member of the Commercial Club of Munday.

Mr. Kendall was married in Knox county, on the 27th of June, 1909, to Miss Flora Smith, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Smith, who were formerly of Mississippi. Mr. and Mrs. Kendall have had two children born to them, as follows: Walter Gaynor and Edna Arlene.